FY 2007 OHMVR Grant Program Proposed Draft Applications Bureau of Land Management Barstow Field Office

Applicant: Barstow Field Office

FUNDING CATEGORIES							
(A)	CESA						
PROJECT TITLE	(B) CONSERVATION	(C) ENFORCEMENT	(D) RESTORATION	(E) NONCESA	(F) SUBTOTAL	(G) ADMIN %	(H) TOTAL
Conservation	\$68,248				\$68,248		\$68,248
Development				\$365,744	\$365,744		\$365,744
Safety or Education				\$176,290	\$176,290		\$176,290
Equipment		\$27,124		\$144,873	\$171,997		\$171,997
FO&M				\$982,599	\$982,599		\$982,599
Law Enforcement		\$671,460			\$671,460		\$671,460
Restoration			\$1,975,471		\$1,975,471		\$1,975,471
Train Mainteance				\$82,638	\$82,638		\$82,638
				Subtotal			\$4,494,447
APPLICATION SUMMARY SHEET TOTAL ROUNDED TO NEAREST \$1,000 (This amount must match the Grand Total amount requested on the application face sheet)							\$4,494,000

⁽ROUND TO NEAREST \$1,000); (e.g., \$1–\$499 round down; \$500–\$999 round up)

*Applicants may request administrative costs, not to exceed 10% of the total project(s) requested. If claiming administrative costs, the percentage claiming shall be noted in the % box entitled "(G) Admin" above. The total amount of administrative costs requested shall be identified in column (G) above by project type.

Project 1: Conservation - Species Inventory and Planning Description

Total Requested: \$68,248

Detailed cost information available on Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) Spreadsheet in a separate document.

Proposed Barstow Conservation Project Description:

Species Inventory and Planning Description

This is the first year that the BFO has completed an "L" Form Wildlife Habitat Protection Program, Habitat Management Program as a part of the OHMVR Grants process. In the development of the WHPP/HMP the BFO has identified a desire for more recent and complete survey information. This grant would fund a review and update of the species of concern within the BFO. Secondly, BFO will review current management objectives and prescriptions to ensure that species needs are adequately accounted for. Results from this effort would be reported in a separate document and would be used to further refine the BFO WHPP/HMP in future years.

Soils Standard Compliance Monitoring

The BFO will monitor its open route network within the restoration areas to ensure conformance with the OHMVR Soil Loss Standards. The routes will be monitored prior to performing any trail maintenance so that necessary maintenance work can be identified. The BFO will use funds requested through a Trail Maintenance grant request (see Trail Maintenance Grant Request) to correct any Yellow or Red areas identified.

Past Accomplishments: Barstow Conservation

This project is new in FY 2007.

Project 2: Barstow El Mirage Developments

Total Requested: \$ 365,744

Detailed cost information available on Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) Spreadsheet in a separate document.

El Mirage Campground Development

The BFO proposes to develop a campground within the El Mirage OHV Recreation Area. Two sections of land in the Twin Hills Area of the recreation area were previously subdivided and improved with graded streets and construction pads. BFO will utilize this existing infrastructure to develop 3 group camp sites and 13 individual camp sites. The group camp sites will include a fire ring, picnic table, vault toilets, and shade ramadas. Individual camp sites would include the same amenities but would share vault toilets.

El Mirage, Lake Road Upgrade

Lake Road and five tributary roads would be improved to provide better access to and from the lake bed. The improved access will decrease traffic on the lake bed, protect

the lake bed surface, and ensure adequate access to the western portion of the facility during the rainy season. The roads would be improved by grading and installing a compacted aggregate base.

ADA Vault Toilet Access

This project would provide for ADA access to the existing vault toilets at El Mirage. Currently the toilets themselves are ADA accessible but access to the toilets is difficult because of sand and in some areas the natural contour of the site. This project would provide a cement apron at each vault toilet to ensure accessibility.

ATV Safety Training Course

To support the BFO education program an ATV safety training and technical riding course would be developed. The course would consist of a series of obstacles that are necessary to conduct certified ATV training and additional obstacles for experienced riders to test and improve their skills on. Obstacles would include a sand area, mud area, log roll and straddle area, articulation ramp, worm track, small hills and rock piles.

Past Accomplishments: Barstow Development

The Barstow Field Office has a long and successful history of Development Grants for the El Mirage Recreation Area. Development Grants have included the boundary fence, maintenance shop, paving of Mountain View Rd., a well for the future visitor center and the visitor center itself.

Project 3: OHV Safety or Education Project Description

Total Requested: \$176,290

Detailed cost information available on Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) Spreadsheet in a separate document.

Classroom OHV Education Project - \$64,967

The Barstow Field Office (BFO) Classroom Environmental Education Project will include an update of the curriculum and delivery to elementary and middle school students. The grant will provide for the development and printing of new brochures to educate the visiting public on the safe and environmentally responsible operation of OHVs. To accomplish this goal the BFO will expand on their resources through the existing successful environmental education partnership program at our Desert Discovery Center (DDC), offer in school visits to K-8 classes, and make presentations to community organizations.

Outdoor OHV Education Project – \$94,440

The BFO Environmental Education Project will also update the 10 existing kiosks located throughout the five OHV Recreation Areas and 2 existing kiosk located at Juniper Flats. The existing kiosk panels are outdated and have been vandalized. Updating the panel information will ensure accurate and consistent information to our visitors.

Additionally, brochures for the OHV areas will be updated that will include a map of the area, definitions of vehicle use designations, effects of inappropriate OHV use, flora and fauna of the area, and other recreational opportunities available such as hiking, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, etc.

ATV Safety Training Education Project - \$16,883

An ATV Safety Training Course will be developed at El Mirage where ATV training will be made available by instructors certified by the ATV Safety Institute. This grant will fund certification of three instructors. Volunteers will be utilized to augment staffing for ATV classes. A message of environmental stewardship and OHV edict will be incorporated into the ATV training.

Past Accomplishments: OHV Safety or Education

The OHV safety or education grant provided funding for the development of an OHV segment to the already successful environmental education program offered through the Desert Discovery Center. This curriculum was provided to thousands of school age students through the DDC. Additionally, the BFO will be installing three informational kiosks within rural areas to offer a message of environmental stewardship and OHV ethic to visitors in these areas.

Project 4: Equipment Project Description

Total Requested: \$171,997

Detailed cost information available on Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) Spreadsheet in a separate document.

Non-CESA Equipment – \$144,873 Rescue Sand Rail

The BFO proposes to replace its aging sand rail which is used for search and rescue operations at Dumont Dunes. The current rail has been in service for about twelve years. The current sand rail has been well maintained and continues to run and operate well. However, the frame on the rail has succumbed to years of vibration and use and has begun to develop cracks and breaks. The BFO has had the frame repaired numerous times but continues to crack at key points. This represents a critical safety issue for both emergency staff and their patients. Further, the current rail does not have the capability to access all portions of the dunes as a newer more technologically advanced sand rail would.

Dump Truck

The BFO proposes to replace its 7 yard dump truck with a 10-12 yard dump truck. The current 7 yard dump truck is over 10 years old. While it is still in good shape its limited size requires numerous trips for most haul projects. Additionally, one of the primary uses of the dump truck is to tow other equipment to job sites. The towing capacity of the 7 yard dump truck is minimally acceptable for towing the needed equipment. The BFO would trade in the existing dump truck and use the value from it toward the replacement truck.

Bob Cat Grader Attachment

The BFO would like to purchase a road grader attachment for the current Bob Cat tractor. The grader attachment would be used for light road grading and maintenance as well as heavy trail maintenance.

Law Enforcement Equipment - \$27,124

All Terrain Vehicles (ATV)

The Barstow Field Office (BFO) proposes to purchase two standard 4x4 ATV's for Law Enforcement (LE) operations related to OHV use within the BFO. Currently the BFO LE program does not posses such vehicles and purchasing these vehicles would greatly enhance safety for officers and the public. In the past, LE Rangers have relied upon standard LE vehicles, SUV'S and pick-up's, to perform its LE functions at various OHV Areas. Although successful, the use of these types of vehicles in remote inaccessible areas has caused undue maintenance requirements to the BFO LE vehicles. Additionally, services to the public have suffered due to the lacking capabilities of standard LE vehicles. The procurement of these types of vehicles will allow LE personnel to provide enforcement, search and rescue operations, emergency medical services and public assistance in timelier manner.

Trailer, Lights and Safety Gear

The BFO LE division also proposes to purchase two covered trailers for storage and protection of the ATV'S. The trailers and associated equipment would be stored at fenced in locations within the BFO area of operation. Additionally, emergency equipment such as lights, sirens and riding gear would be purchased to maximize safety and utilization of these vehicles.

Past Accomplishments: Equipment

The BFO has used OHMVR grant funding for the purchase of various types of equipment over the last decade. We are not reaching the point where OHV funded equipment has reached the end of its life expectancy or the mission has changed requiring new or different types of equipment. Such is the case with the requested dump truck and the LE ATV's. LE has used ATVs purchased with past OHV funds in the past with great success. However, these vehicles are now over 10 years old.

Staff has identified the street sweeper to remove sand from the Mountain View Road at El Mirage and is waiting funding from OHMVR to initiate procurement. The BFO used the OHMVR grant request to leverage federal funds to help with the purchase of the visitor contact trailer identified in the FY06 equipment grant. The federal funds have been approved and will become available in FY07. The BFO will pursue procurement of the trailer at that time.

Project 5: Facilities Operation And Maintenance

Total Requested: \$ 982,599

Detailed cost information available on Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) Spreadsheets in a separate document.

El Mirage - \$464,913

Dumont Dunes - \$372,132

JV/SV/Rasor - \$145,554

Barstow Facilities Operation and Maintenance Project Description

The Barstow Field Office (BFO) is sandwiched between the greater Los Angeles basin and the Las Vegas valley, two of the largest and fastest growing metropolitan areas in the United States. The increasing population is causing a significant rise in visitation to OHV recreation areas and has put an added burden on the BFO to ensure the health and safety of the visitors, and the level of service visitors need and expect are met.

The BFO will use the FO&M grant to maintain infrastructure and facilities that serve OHV recreationists including 44 vault toilets, barrier fences and informational and regulatory signs located at El Mirage, Dumont Dunes, and Johnson and Stoddard Valley OHV Recreation Areas. Additionally, funds will be used to support vehicle operations, water system testing, trash clean up support cost, volunteer support cost, toilet pumping and cleaning contracts and staffing cost associated with the operations and maintenance of one of the largest and most complex OHV programs in the state.

The BFO field staffs provide face to face contact with visitors on a daily basis. Staff offer guidance on the legal and appropriate use of OHV's, riding locations, as well as information regarding local services.

The El Mirage visitor center should be completed in early 2007. The visitor center will provide for a place that visitors can receive information and assistance for BLM staff and the Friends of El Mirage staff and volunteers. Funds will be used to provide staffing for the visitor center and necessary equipment to enhance visitors' experience.

Past Accomplishments: Facilities Operations and Maintenance

The Facilities Operations and Maintenance portion of the grant provided for routine maintenance of the Barstow OHV facilities including cleaning and pumping vault toilets, repairing the boundary fence at El Mirage, replacing vandalized signs, routine road maintenance, and the clean-up of general litter. The grant also provided funding for an Outdoor Recreation Planner who serve as the principle point of contact at El Mirage for visitors and the Friends of El Mirage. The funds were used to develop and present interpretive programs, provided initial response and support to San Bernardino County with medical aid incidents, and assists in resource monitoring.

Project 6: Law Enforcement

Total Requested: \$671,460

Detailed cost information available on Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) Spreadsheets in a separate document.

El Mirage - \$146,700, Dumont - \$299,600, JV/SV/Rasor - 124,650, Rural - \$100,510

Barstow Law Enforcement Project Description

The BFO is responsible for managing nearly 2 million acres of land where motorized vehicle travel is limited to existing or designated routes of travel, approximately 800,000 acres of designated wilderness, and approximately 300,000 acres of land within designated OHV Recreation Areas where motorized vehicle travel is unrestricted.

Because the Barstow Field Office (BFO) extends nearly the entire distance between the two large population centers of Los Angeles and Las Vegas, the amount of urban interface is significant. This urban interface has a huge impact on the workload and roll of law enforcement on those public lands. Additionally, the BFO has a large restoration program throughout its jurisdiction.

This grant will support law enforcement and search and rescue activities at Dumont Dunes OHV Recreation Area, Johnson and Stoddard Valley OHV Recreation Areas, and El Mirage OHV Recreation Area, Rasor OHV Recreation Area, BFO restoration areas, and in several rural "hotspots" where the public has raised significant attention as a result of increased OHV activity (see Appendix A, rural area hotspots map). The BFO law enforcement staff's mission is to ensure protection of the visitors of these OHV recreation areas and "hotspots," just as it is their responsibility to protect the natural resources of the public lands.

The BFO works closely with the San Bernardino County Sheriffs Victorville and Barstow Substations. This cooperation is necessary to ensure necessary staffing at large OHV events and holiday use weekend. Additionally, the relationship is critical to protecting private property in areas where the jurisdiction boundaries are intermeshed with public and private lands.

Past Accomplishments: Law Enforcement

The Law enforcement grant provided for Federal Rangers to patrol within the five OHV Recreation areas, three restoration areas, and through the rural interface area with public lands. The priority of these patrols is to ensure public health and safety, natural and cultural resource protection and to discourage the trespass on private lands by OHV visitors on public lands.

Project 7: Restoration

Total Requested: \$1,975,471

Detailed cost information available on Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) Spreadsheets in a separate document.

Afton - \$255,025 Calico – 162,312 Coolgardie – 447,312

Edwards - \$501,242 Juniper - \$430,680 Law Enforcement - \$178,900

Barstow Restoration Project Description Restoration - Continuing

The Barstow Field Office has a very active restoration program within its jurisdiction. Currently the restoration program is restoring routes in three different areas, Coolgardie, Juniper Flats, and the Edwards Bowl. The restoration work is being completed utilizing a combination of contracted restoration crews and volunteer restoration crews from local schools and community groups. The Ord Mountain restoration is expected to be completed May/07. Coolgardie restoration is beginning in late 2006 in cooperation with and at the request of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Restoration New

The BFO proposes to begin restoration in the Coolgardie, Calico Mountains, and Afton Canyon areas in FY07. This grant would fund work in support of restoration. This work includes the development of the local volunteer network to support the volunteer restoration crews, signing routes to be restored as restoration areas and the beginning of restoration of areas impacted by OHV use. Barriers may also be installed in particularly sensitive areas or where a high degree of trespass is anticipated.

Past Accomplishments: Restoration

The BFO has restoration projects in three areas including the Ord Mountains, Juniper Flats and Edwards Bowl. BFO staff has been doing the necessary clearance work so that the crews that report this fall to the Ord and Edwards Bowl will be read to go to work. We anticipate that the Ord Mountain Restoration project will be completed this year. The BFO has move forward with an exciting new approach to restoration this year in the Juniper Flats area. The BFO has developed a cadre of volunteers through local high schools and community groups to accomplish this important restoration project. By doing this the BFO should accomplish more restoration than anticipated and develop a sense of ownership in the restoration project amongst the local youth, contributing greatly to the long term success of the project.

Project 8: Trail Maintenance

Total Requested: \$82,638

Detailed cost information available on Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) Spreadsheets in a separate document.

Barstow Trail Maintenance

The BFO proposes to provide for trail maintenance consisting of route signing and raking utilizing a quad and York rock rake on open routes within the areas that Barstow is or will soon be restoring closed routes. The maintenance of these routes will help recreationists to better understand which routes are available for their use. These, in concert with the efforts identified in the Restoration grant will reduce the amount of trespass on routes designated closed and initiate the education process for visitors regarding which routes are available for use and which routes are not.

Additionally, the BFO maintains a network of infrastructure routes which provide ingress and egress to its five OHV Recreation areas. There are 85 miles of roads in the network including Lake and Twin Hills Roads at the El Mirage OHV Recreation Area, Dumont Dunes Road at the Dumont OHV Recreation Area, Hodge, Sidewinder, and Lee Berry Roads at the Stoddard OHV Recreation Area, Boone, Bessemer, Granite, Anderson and North Anderson Roads in the Johnson Valley OHV Recreation Area, and Razor and Basin Roads at the Razor OHV Recreation Area. Each of these roads require road grading at least once each year with some of them such as Dumont Dunes Road requiring grading six to ten times each year.

Past Accomplishments: Barstow Scientific Research This project is new in FY 2007.

